

Message Text

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11
ACTION EA-09

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R 190912Z AUG 76
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
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C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 2332

FOL MSG SENT ACTION BANGKOK FROM SONGKHLA IS REPEATED TO
YOU (DTG 180810Z AUG 76)

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SONGKHLA 190

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS, TH
SUBJECT: REACTION TO STORIES OF PRAPHAT'S RETURN

1. STORIES OF THE RETURN OF FORMER STRONGMAN PRAPHAT CHARUSATI
HAVE CREATED INTEREST, BUT NOT GREAT CONCERN IN SONGKHLA AREA.
RECTOR OF PRINCE OF SONGKHLA UNIVERSITY IN HAT YAI, DR. PHASOOK
YCKLAWANICH, THOUGHT IT "INAPPROPRIATE" FOR PRAPHAT TO HAVE RE-
TURNED NOTING THAT TRADITIONALLY EXILED LEADERS STAY AWAY. HE CITED
EXAMPLE OF FORMER PRIME MINISTER PRIDI PANOMYONG WHOM HE SAID IS
KNOWN TO WANT TO RETURN. DR. PHASOOK THOUGHT IT UNLIKELY THAT
PRAPHAT'S VISIT WOULD BE SERIOUSLY DISRUPTIVE PROVIDING BANGKOK
STUDENTS REACTED WITH SOME RESTRAINT AND MODERATION.

2. STUDENTS AT UNIVERSITY IN HAT YAI HAVE PUT UP POSTERS CONDEMNING
PRAPHAT'S RETURN URGING ALL TO "REMEMBER THE 14TH OF OCTOBER." ONE
REMARKABLY PAROCHIAL POSTER PLEDGES THAT STUDENTS WILL "DRIVE
PRAPHAT AWAY" SHOULD HE ATTEMPT TO ENTER THE CAMPUS.
HAMILTON
UNQUOTE WHITEHOUSE

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NNN

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